

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN
Competition-118

Tick the Correct Answers
Post to The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
July 30, '99 and draw
shortly afterwards

- Who is the new England cricket coach?
Fletcher Hussain Marsh
- Brazilian footballer Rivaldo plays for
Lazio Barcelona Arsenal
- Who is the captain of Argentina soccer team?
Simeone Batistuta Ayala
- How many Grand Slam titles has Steffi Graf won till now?
22 23 24
- Who is ATP's top ranked player right now?
Sampras Moya Agassi

Name
Class Roll No.
School Address
Phone: (if any)

POWERED WITH
EN-VITS
ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

SPORTS TALK



Mohammad Azharuddin

(India cricket captain)
"We had plenty of gains even though we did not become the champions. The success of Rahul Dravid, Sourav Ganguly, Debashish Mohanty, and a few others convinced me that we have a very good nucleus for the future."

School's h'ball Rajbarbagh keep title

Rajbarbagh Police Lines High School retained the title of the school boys' handball tournament beating Tejgaon BAF Shaheen School 35-20 in the final at the court near Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.

The winners led the first half 17-11. Hanif scored highest 16 goals while Nazmul added 10 and Khabir 5 to the winners' tally.

Mahtab netted 5 goals for the losers while Khaled pulled back 4.

Saiful Abedin of BAF Shaheen School (Tejgaon) was adjudged best player of the tournament while Bangladesh Rifles School and College got the fair-play award.

Science and Technology Minister Lt Gen (Retd) M Nooruddin Khan distributed prizes after the match as chief guest.

President of Bangladesh Handball Federation Lt Col (Retd) Abdul Hamid, General Secretary Asaduzzaman Kholnour and general export manager of sponsors Bata Shoe Company KMS Alam were present on the occasion.

Rajbarbagh Police Lines High School: Nazmul, Hanif, Khabir, Rezaul, Samiul, Rafiqul, Arman, Zahurul, Sajjad, Hajrat, Masud and Sohel.

BAF Shaheen School (Tejgaon): Ishtiaq, Saiful, Mahtab, Jubair, Javed, Khaled, Rakib, Rashed, Iftekhar, Sahidul, Azad and Asif.

ROLE OF HONOUR

Year	Champions
1985	St Gregory's High
1987	St Joseph's High
1988	Nawabpur Govt High
1991	Narinda Govt High
1992	Shaheed Nabi High
1995	Rajbarbagh Police Lines
1996	Rajbarbagh Police Lines
1997	Rifles School & College
1998	Rajbarbagh Police Lines
1999	Rajbarbagh Police Lines



A battle for possession between the players of Badda Jagorani and Rahmatganj during their Premier Division soccer clash at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday. — Star photo

Badda down Rahmatganj, first win for Arambagh

Badda Jagorani Sangsad notched their second win in the Keya Premier Division Football League beating Rahmatganj MFS 2-0 at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.

Badda Jagorani now have seven points and Rahmatganj MFS two points from five matches.

Dipankar Dey and captain Khokon netted one goal each for Badda.

Indian recruit Dipankar put Badda Jagorani ahead in the 67th minute with a low volley from a Parvez Babu cross in the penalty box.

In the 40th minute of the second-half, Khokon doubled the margin with a header from a Govinda cross.

Dipankar had another chance to score in the 72nd minute but his shot hit the corner post. Before the final whistle, Rahmatganj MFS got a chance to reduce the margin but Milon's shot from a Nurul Islam pass narrowly missed the target.

Yellow cards: Nurul Islam (Rahmatganj), Haider (Badda).

ARAMBAGH'S FIRST

In another match, Arambagh Krira Sangha tasted the first win in the league beating Mirpur Chalanika SC 2-1 at the same venue.

Arambagh KS secured six points from five matches. Earlier, they snatched points forcing two giants Abahani Limited

and Mohammedan SC to draws. Mirpur Chalanika SC is yet to earn any point from their five outings.

In the day's match, Masud Khan Johnny and Asif Yousuf scored for the winners while Rabi netted the only goal for the losers.

Masud put Arambagh ahead in the 8th minute with a right-foot shot from the penalty box while Rabi equalised the margin from a superb left-footer in the 43rd minute from Rinku's pass.

Early in the second-half Yousuf netted the match-decid-

ing goal from a corner-kick by Aminul Islam Mithu.

Yellow cards: Tony, Mizan (Asad), Tanveer (Govinda), Babu, Shamim, Dipankar and Khokon.

TEAMS

BADDA JAGORANI SANGSAD: Titu, Papel, Lajuk, Haider (Ujjal), Hasan, Monwar (Asad), Tanveer (Govinda), Babu, Shamim, Dipankar and Khokon.

RAHMATGANJ MFS: Himu, Biplob, Deen Mohammad, Kamal Masum, Nayan, Javed, Nurul Islam, Milon, Titu and Raju (Noman).

ARAMBAGH KS: Tony (Abir), Titu, Rabbani (Biplob), Mizan, Shamim, Mithu, Yousuf, Abiodun (Pranatosh), Tazu, Ritu and Masud Khan.

MIRPUR CHALANIKA SC: Amir, Kabir (Tareq), Shariul (Zakir), Dulal, Jaglu, Pappu, Kakhon, Rinku (Babul), Sohel, Sahag and Rabi.

TODAY'S MATCH

Muktijoddha Sangsad KC vs Farashganj SC
Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium
Time: 5.30 pm.

Div I soccer

BRTC Sporting Club tasted their first win in the First Division football league beating Dhaka Wanderers Club 1-0 at the Mirpur Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.

With the win, BRTC collected six points from five matches while Dhaka Wanderers have 4 points from five outings.

Koushik netted the all-important goal in the 44th minute.

Today's match: Agrani Bank Sporting Club vs East End Club at Mirpur Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium (4 pm).

Div II hockey

Shantinagar SC and PWD won their respective matches in the Green Delta Insurance Second Division hockey league at the Moulana Bhasani National Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.

Shantinagar defeated Raktim Sangha 3-1 after leading the first half 1-0.

Rabin put Shantinagar ahead in the 29th minute through a field goal and Sabbir doubled it, also with a field goal, in the 42nd minute.

Shakil reduced the margin for Raktim Sangha in the 51st minute from a penalty stroke. Likhon added the third for the winners with a field goal in the 61st minute.

In the other match, PWD beat Dhaka Young Star Club 2-1 after the first half was locked at 1-1.

Pavel netted both the goals for the winners while Azizur Rahman scored one for the losers.

Today's matches: Tejgaon Agragami Club vs Rayerbazar SC (2:30 pm), and Dhaka Wanderers Club vs Dhaka Hockey Club (4:15 pm).

WHIZZ KID 117

Boost winner

Samara Hamid (Piki)

Bangladesh Int'l Tutorial.

Please bring your ID card and a passport size attested photograph while collecting the winner's prize from the Sport Desk of The Daily Star at 7:30pm on July 22)



Members of the Brazilian squad take to the swimming pool of their hotel in Foz de Iguacu on July 15. —Internet photo

Sanath ducks Arjuna's meeting



COLOMBO, July 16 (AFP/AP): Sri Lanka's Cricket Board today denied involvement in sacked skipper Arjuna Ranatunga's first public engagement after his World Cup debacle and said it was a mis-

The head of the Board of Control for Cricket (BCCSL), Rienze Wijetilleke, said the board had nothing to do with the Thursday night roundtable where Ranatunga and his sacked deputy Aravinda de Silva appeared.

"We had nothing to do with that and although some invitations went under the cricket board letterheads, it was a misunderstanding," Wijetilleke told AFP. "Those letters were retracted."

"We advised (new captain) Sanath Jayasuriya not to attend that meeting and he took our advice."

Jayasuriya's seat remained empty at what had been billed a "world exclusive" panel discussion with Ranatunga, as well as the suspended president of the board, Thilanga Sumathipala, and sacked team manager Duleep Mendis.

An organiser said it was "unfortunate" Jayasuriya could not be at the event shown live by a private television station. Several local media organisations boycotted the meeting.

Ranatunga spoke of a conspiracy led by unidentified people to undermine him as well as cricket in the country. He said he did not have sufficient evidence to back his claim but would later disclose the names of those involved.

He said he was also unsure of being picked to play under

Jayasuriya because the final decision lay with the national selectors who had, however, named him in a 30-member panel eligible for selection.

Apart from Jayasuriya, two other seniors—Roshan Mahanama and Hashan Tilakaratne—were also conspicuous by their absence at Thursday's widely publicised panel discussion.

Neither player was immediately available for comment. Jayasuriya had last week said he looked forward to working closely with Ranatunga and de Silva.

Sri Lanka will play Australia and India at a triangular later next month. Australia will stay on in the island to play a three-test series.

Ranatunga declined to directly react to charges by their former coach Bruce Yardley that senior players treated junior team-mates like "servants."

"I don't know what he means by 'servants', but to say that is to insult the entire team," Ranatunga said.

He also denied there were differences between him and Sri Lanka's previous World Cup coach Dav Whatmore.

There had been reports Ranatunga had serious differences with Whatmore over moves to bring in young players to groom for the 1999 world Cup after the country won the title in 1996 with Ranatunga as the skipper.

The head of the selection panel, Sidath Wettimuni said last week that even if Ranatunga had delivered the latest world cup, he would have been removed as skipper because the country needed a change.

Ranatunga said he still has enough talent to play for his country.

"This is not the time for me to go, when Sri Lankan cricket is down. Nobody can tell me when to go if I am getting runs. I still feel that I have a lot of cricket in me," said Ranatunga.

At 35, Ranatunga skipped Sri Lanka in 1993 one-day matches and 56 tests. He was a national hero after leading his team to the championship of the 1996 World Cup, but came under fire after their failure to reach the second round of this year's World Cup. They have lost 18 of the 25 one-day matches played since October.

"I know of a conspiracy to see that I am gone forever. But this is not going to happen. I am around and I intend to be around," he said, frequently sipping water and wiping his forehead.

Ranatunga declined to name the alleged conspirators. "I am collecting evidence and when I have them all, I will expose them."

Ranatunga said he had no objection to playing under the new skipper, Sanath Jayasuriya, but cautioned that success was unlikely to be achieved overnight.

"I do not think it is difficult to play under Sanath. I have played under Aravinda de Silva when I was dropped earlier as captain," Ranatunga said.

"Sanath has played under me. He is very talented. If people are expecting results overnight, I think it is wrong," said Ranatunga.

Under Ranatunga, Sri Lanka won 12 Tests and lost 19. His record in one-day games was 89 wins, 95 losses, eight no-results and one tie.



Sacked Sri Lankan skipper Arjuna Ranatunga (R) makes a point while his former deputy Aravinda de Silva listens during a discussion meeting at Colombo yesterday. —AFP photo

Kiwis' WI tour uncertain



LONDON, July 16 (Internet report): The New Zealand cricketers will have an unexpected chance to put their feet up at the end of this season's domestic programme.

Next year's tour of the West Indies has not yet been confirmed and is unlikely to proceed, leaving the Kiwis with no international cricket between the end of the

Australian visit in late March, and September - when they are scheduled to tour Zimbabwe and South Africa.

New Zealand Cricket general manager Tim Murdoch conceded yesterday that the reciprocal tour of the West Indies (they are due to tour here in December) was now in grave doubt because of scheduling difficulties in the Caribbean.

Although India and Pakistan play their domestic cricket at around the same time, Murdoch said it was most unlikely a substitute tour would be organised in the New Zealand autumn, meaning the Kiwi cricketers would have five months away from the international circuit.

It will probably do them the world of good, to be honest," he said. "They've been playing wall-to-wall cricket for a while now and it's perhaps not a bad time to restock and have a bit of a rest."

New Zealand will have a short break at the end of the present tour of England before departing for India, where they will play three tests and five ODIs in a tour starting on November 21.

They will then return to New Zealand for the home series against the West Indies and Australia, the details of which are being finalised this week by NZC.

Murdoch confirmed the West Indies (who will arrive here on December 1 and depart January 13) will play two Tests and five ODIs, while Australia will play three tests and six ODIs between February 12 and March 28.

"The tour is still not confirmed," Murdoch said. "And the chances of it going ahead seem to be getting slimmer by the week."

"I can't really talk on behalf of the West Indies so it's inappropriate for me to elaborate, but the upshot is that the tour will probably not take place."

The West Indies are scheduled to tour England later in the year.

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Venues would be made public as soon as the West Indian and Australian boards had been notified.

He said the delay in announcing the domestic itinerary was caused by the fact the two tours overlap with sections of the Shell Cup and Shell Trophy competitions, as well as a need to choose suitable venues for games being televised.

Under their agreement with Sky Television, NZC hope to have Shell Cup, Trophy and Cricket Max, and women's national league games televised, as well as all home Tests and ODIs.

Women's sports conference in October

A national women sports conference will be held in Dhaka in the last week of October this year, reports UNB.

This was decided at a meeting between State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader and the officials of Bangladesh Women Sports Association at the Women Sports Complex in the capital yesterday.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is expected to inaugurate the conference.

The meeting discussed matters relating to preparation for the conference, overall development of the complex and increasing practice facilities.

Women players and leaders of women sports associations from across the country will participate in the conference.